

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/04312

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B5/02 G11B5/39 G11B5/62 G11B5/74 G11B7/125
G11B23/03 G11B23/50 G11B17/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G11B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 995 309 A (KAWANO YUJI ET AL) 30 November 1999 (1999-11-30)	1-6, 9-15
Y	figures 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 14; examples 1, 4, 6, 8	7, 8, 16
X	US 6 084 848 A (GOTO KENYA) 4 July 2000 (2000-07-04)	1-3, 9-15
Y	column 1, line 12 - line 57 column 3, line 19 - column 11, line 39; figures 3-6B, 11-13	6-8, 16
X	EP 0 450 629 A (SONY CORP) 9 October 1991 (1991-10-09) page 3, line 29 - page 7, line 50; figures 1, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 17	1-5, 10-14, 16
A	EP 0 120 990 A (IBM) 10 October 1984 (1984-10-10) the whole document	1-9
-/-		

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 December 2003

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22/01/2004

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PCT/IB 03/04312

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 083 231 A (VEENSTRA KEVIN C ET AL) 21 January 1992 (1992-01-21) abstract ---	6-8
Y	US 4 470 083 A (LINDBERG TERRANCE D ET AL) 4 September 1984 (1984-09-04) abstract ---	6-8
Y	US 6 359 746 B1 (INOUE TETSUO ET AL) 19 March 2002 (2002-03-19) column 11, line 7 -column 21, line 7; figures 1-12 column 26, line 14 - line 48; figure 20 -----	16

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